

**SENATE . . . . . No. 972**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Jason M. Lewis, (BY REQUEST)***

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act providing for the improvement of required standards of Clerk Magistrates.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Vincent Lawrence Dixon*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*60 Lake Street Unit N, Winchester, MA  
01890*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 972**

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By Mr. Lewis (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 972) of Vincent Lawrence Dixon for legislation to provide for the improvement of required standards of Clerk Magistrates. The Judiciary.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act providing for the improvement of required standards of Clerk Magistrates.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Massachusetts General Laws are hereby amended by inserting the  
2 following new chapter:

3 An Act to provide for the improvement of required standards of Clerk Magistrates.

4 1.) Massachusetts, having developed a unique system of Clerk Magistrates, has found  
5 certain inconsistencies, in this system. While this system, under various reviews, may experience  
6 significant alteration, few voices likely are opposed to the improvement of standards, held by  
7 those individuals appointed to these positions.

8 2.) Therefore, this Statute, establishes, and encourages, a particular additional educational  
9 standard: All Clerk Magistrates, appointed after the implementation of this Act, shall have proof  
10 of graduation, with an earned degree, from an accredited graduate Law School. In addition,  
11 current Clerk Magistrates, shall be encouraged to earn a graduate Law Degree, from an

12 accredited Law School, if they do not have one. If they do so, within seven years of the  
13 implementation of this statute, they may receive a ten-percent upward incentive bonus, for  
14 having done so; since doing so, may benefit themselves, and the public respect for the  
15 legal system.

16 3.) All individuals, meeting the requirements of this Act, shall receive additional training,  
17 and regular update training, on a yearly basis, as specified in such needed regulations, as the  
18 Attorney General, shall create, and monitor, in conjunction with the relevant supervising  
19 justices, of each appropriately defined judicial system, in the Commonwealth.